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**GUN CRIME  
IS  
JAIL TIME.**

## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Terrell L. Harris, United States Attorney for the Western District of Tennessee and Bill Gibbons, Shelby County District Attorney General, jointly announced today that charges have been filed in both the state and federal court systems relating to a string of nine (9) robberies occurring in Memphis, Tennessee last week.

According to a Criminal Complaint filed in Federal Court yesterday, George Hampton (age 35) and Anthony Wallace (age 22) have been identified by multiple victims and witnesses as the perpetrators of several robberies occurring between July 28<sup>th</sup> and July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2002. According to the complaint, witnesses related that both Hampton and Wallace possessed a “sawed-off” shotgun during the robberies. In addition, the complaint alleges that a 12 gauge shotgun shell was recovered from a stolen Buick Century which used during several of the robberies. Both Hampton and Wallace are previously convicted felons and are charged with illegally possessing ammunition. This charge carries up to ten years in federal prison and a \$250,000 dollar fine.

Hampton and Wallace are also charged in state court with especially aggravated robbery, which carries between 15 and 60 years in prison, and aggravated robbery, which carries between 8 and 30 years in prison. These charges are the result of an investigation spearheaded by the Memphis Police Department Robbery Squad, with assistance from the MPD Project Safe Neighborhoods Unit, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms, and the FBI’s Safe Streets Task Force. General Gibbons states, “We face far too much gun-related violent crime in our community. It is critical that we use the force of both our state and federal laws to combat it, and that’s what we are doing in this case.”

Assistant District Attorneys Stephen P. Jones and John W. Campbell will be coordinating the prosecution of these individuals in state court and Assistant United States Attorney Jennifer Lawrence Webber will handle the federal case.

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